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In the opening chapter, the author states the purpose of his study is "not to breed pessimism, but to furnish a rational ground for faith in the future of the world. The diseases of society, like the diseases of the human body, are to be studied that remedies may be found for them where they exist, but most of all, that by a larger vitality and greater practical wisdom the number of diseases may be reduced to the lowest terms and we may set ourselves to social tasks with the ideal of finally conquering them althogether."

The method of presentation followed is first to study the nature of each social disease discussed and then to suggest the respective remedies. In addition to the treatment of the social diseases included under the broad terms, dependency, delinquency and defectiveness, are three chapters dealing respectively with Social Sanitation, the Inspection of Institutions and Social Statistics. These, while suggestive, occupy space which might have been devoted to a fuller discussion of some of the many phases of social pathology which precede. This suggests what is perhaps the chief criticism of the book—an attempt to cover too wide a field. While well done in the main, each treatment is too brief for the special student of the problem. The value of the book is enhanced by a bibliography of works used in its preparation as well as by an exhaustive index.

FRANK D. WATSON.

New York School of Philanthropy.

Stockton, F. T. *The Closed Shop in American Trade Unions.* Pp. xii, 187. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1911.

This is a sympathetic yet critical, detailed yet readable monograph on the origin and subsequent development of the closed shop principle in American trade unionism. The volume shows the evidence of first hand study as well as of considerable library research. In the words of the author, "the primary aim of the present study is to set forth the facts concerning the closed shop." In so doing the various forms of the closed shop—the simple closed shop, the extended closed shop, and the joint closed shop—are explained and discussed in chapters with the above captions. Throughout the relative importance attached to the enforcement of the closed shop principle at various stages of our industrial development and the efforts which employers have made from time to time to check its operation, are described.

In some ways the closing chapters of the book are the most interesting, since they discuss the social aspects of the closed shop as well as its value as a trade union device. On the latter point, Dr. Stockton summarizes, among others, the following arguments, usually advanced in defense of the closed shop principle:—The closed shop makes possible the enforcement of discipline over union members; it makes collective bargaining truly effective; it secures in all cases the exclusion of "scabs" who might secure employment were non-union men not discriminated against. The presence of non-union men is likely to make for a complete non-union shop, since, other things being equal, non-union men are likely to be favored with promotions, etc., over union men; the closed shop principle is just in view of the legal principle known as the fellow-servant doctrine.

It is the conclusion of the author that "the closed shop is used by trade

unions as a device to gain certain ends. It is not an end in itself. It cannot be explained on the grounds of unreasoning prejudice against non-union men. It is an utterly mistaken view to regard it as a mere 'passing phase' of unionism. It is also probably safe to say with Mr. John Mitchell that 'with the growth of trade unionism in the United States the exclusion of non-unionists will be more complete.' " The sympathetic yet critical spirit with which the author has treated his subject cannot be better illustrated than by quoting the two closing paragraphs of his monograph, in which he summarizes the social aspects of the closed shop:

"If it be true, as has been said, that 'the excesses of unionism which have done and are still doing the greatest injury to the prospects of the movement are all traceable to the use of the arbitrary and coercive power of the closed shop,' it is equally true that the closed shop is responsible for the greatest advances made by unionism. On the one hand, the closed shop, if universally enforced, would afford unions the opportunity to commit gross excesses by virtue of the power lodged with them. On the other hand, the closed shop opens the way to the highest and most efficient form of collective bargaining.

"Since regulation of employment is a matter of public concern, and since there is danger that trade unions may become arbitrary in exercising control over a trade, it has been suggested that the state should control their 'constitution, policy and management.' In this way requirements for admission to union membership and working rules could be regulated. State regulation, however, is likely to be introduced only after the closed shop has been widely enforced. At present, in the majority of trades, it is but partially enforced, and only with great difficulty."

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Toulmin, Harry A. *Social Historians.* Pp. xi, 176. Price \$1.50. Boston: R. G. Badger Company, 1911.

The title of this book is misleading. It should be "Literary Historians," for the term "social" has now attained a definite connotation. The author, a young university man with a deep interest in literature as it portrays the conditions of modern life, reviews enthusiastically the new fiction of the South—land of romance, conflict and unrealized possibility. In five essays, those writers of talent whose permanent achievement rests upon their knowledge of and sympathy with the phases of life they depict, are given idealistic, if rather wordy, appreciation.

The first discusses the works of Thomas Nelson Page, the versatile novelist of Virginia, who writes of the stately Colonial South, of the chivalry of plantation life "before the war," of the time of "armed hostility," of the bitter suffering and desolation of the dark Reconstruction era, and also faithfully portrays present conditions, with glimpses into the policy of the future. These pictures, drawn with genial good nature and broad understanding of noble men and women, Mr. Toulmin considers human documents of high value.

In very different manner, we find, George Washington Cable has portrayed a narrower section of Southern life, that of Mississippi and of the Louisiana